

Colorado, for his outstanding career in the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Sparks served diligently as field office manager for nearly two decades. His efforts have been instrumental in designing State and Federal partnerships that have become eminently successful within the Bureau.

Before his distinguished career with the BLM in Colorado, Donnie worked as assistant manager for the Bureau in Alaska where he helped to manage the entire northwest corner of the state. After moving to Colorado, Donnie's hard work paid off in contributions that will live on in Colorado for many decades to come. Along with the Colorado Department of Corrections, Mr. Sparks helped to develop the very successful wild horse program that has been in place for nearly 15 years. Donnie also worked to form yet another State and Federal partnership with the Colorado Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation creating the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, which has become the most rafted river in the country.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Donnie for his hard work and service over the years. Donnie's distinguished career has been quite remarkable and has had a positive impact on Colorado that will not soon be forgotten. He has worked hard to improve our great state and for that I thank him.

I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. LARRY WYMAN MCCOY OF THE SHOALS, ALABAMA

#### HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 6, 2000*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an intellectual treasure of my district, Dr. Larry McCoy of Northwest-Shoals Community College. Dr. McCoy has excelled in all facets of academia. As a student, he cultivated a love of learning through his time at the University of Alabama, Athens College and Nova University. His almost 40 year career in education includes positions all across the state of Alabama as a teacher, coach, athletic director, Dean of Admissions and President of a college. He served as Dean of Admissions before becoming Dean of Student Development at Athens State from 1983 to 1987. Dr. McCoy began his time in the Shoals at Muscle Shoals Technical College but under his leadership and with his keen vision and by adding programs and consolidating campuses, the Technical College grew to become today's thriving Northwest-Shoals Community College with campuses in Muscle Shoals and Phil Campbell.

His distinguished reputation as an academian is supported by the numerous presentations he has made to groups such as the National Managers Association and the National Conference on Teaching Excellence and his position as co-editor of the Alabama College System Professional Development News.

Dr. McCoy has served as a role model for his students for nearly forty years. He has always upheld the position of the scholar athlete coaching 9 All-American and 17 All-State football players. He has been named Alabama

AAA State Coach of the Year and was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1999.

In addition to his exceptional professional contributions to our area, Dr. McCoy has given of himself and his talents serving as President of the Rotary Club of Sheffield and President of the Chamber of Commerce of the Shoals. He has also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Medical Center Shoals and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shoals Economic Development Authority among many others.

Throughout his life, Dr. McCoy has set a great example of how one person can make a huge difference in his community. I want to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. I understand his family and friends are gathering tonight to celebrate his service to the school at a dinner in his honor and I join them in wishing him the best. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I commend him for his tireless efforts for the students of Northwest Alabama.

#### IN HONOR OF PUERTO RICO ON ITS CONSTITUTION DAY

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 6, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the citizens of Puerto Rico on Constitution Day, July 25, 1999. The people of Puerto Rico established Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the very same reasons our forefathers wrote the Constitution of the United States of America, to establish themselves as a democracy.

The Puerto Rican Constitution ensures basic welfare and human rights for the people, enshrines the idea of a government which reflects the will of the people, and pays tribute and loyalty to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Puerto Rican culture is a distinctly unique culture. By pledging allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, the people of Puerto Rico celebrate shared beliefs and the coexistence of both cultures. By ratifying their own Constitution, the people of Puerto Rico retain and honor their original heritage while expressing the desire to pursue democracy and happiness for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following individuals for their contributions to the Greater Cleveland: Rev. Tomas Acevedo, Dr. Barbara Bird-Bennet, Lcdo. Jose Feliciano, Ray Galindo, Barbara Gill, Magda Gomez, Chris Hernandez, Vivian Riccio, Aurea Rivera, Diana Del Rosario, Ramon Torres. I hope that my fellow colleagues will join me in honoring these individuals and praising the Puerto Rican people as they celebrate Constitution Day.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOUISE STEFANELLI SIMMONS

#### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 6, 2000*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Louise Stefanelli Simmons who retired from

the Corps of Engineers in Huntington, West Virginia on August 1, 2000 after dedicating 39 years, 11 months and four days to the Corps.

I salute Louise Stefanelli Simmons for her lifelong dedication to her husband and son Alan, as well as her devotion to duty throughout her service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Her professionalism as well as her commitment to family and community are an outstanding example of family values and good citizenship.

Louise was born in Newark, New Jersey of Italian immigrant parents, one of four children. After graduating from Newark Prep with an associate degree in business, Louise worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army Corps in Newark during World War II, where she met her future husband Howard "Red" Simmons. Upon her marriage, she left family and friends in New Jersey to marry "Simmy" as she called him, moving with him to Huntington, West Virginia. Louise remembers the "culture shock" when she first visited downtown Huntington—the girl from the "big city"—there was no comparison.

Early on in her marriage to "Simmy", she helped him run their restaurant, the Corral Drive-Inn near Marshall University, then got her real estate license so she could help him in his real estate development business.

In addition to helping out with the restaurant business and her husband's real estate interests, Louise worked several years for an insurance company before coming to the Corps of Engineers in 1963. Beginning in the typing pool before becoming secretary to the Chief of Engineering, she later became the secretary to the Colonel in charge of the Huntington Corps, where she remained for nearly four decades.

Louise will spend much of her retirement time as a long-time booster of Marshall University's sports activities, especially the football team, and attending the sporting events involving her two grandchildren, Mark 14 and Elizabeth 12.

Louise loves to travel, back to New Jersey with family and friends. Early this summer she took a 2-week vacation to Italy, to revisit the history of her parentage, and to steep herself in the culture and traditions of her parents' homeland.

Other retirement activities will include her dedication to walking (twice around Ritter Park at least 5 days a week), watching old movies, and perfecting her Italian cooking. Louise is an active member of Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church, the Women's Club of Huntington, and participates in the Professional Secretaries Association.

I wish all the best for Louise, her husband, son Alan and her grandchildren as she embarks upon her Golden Years giving all her uninterrupted energy and love to her family, to her church, and to the community to which she has already contributed so abundantly throughout her remarkable life in her adopted State of West Virginia.

#### HONORING BASIL T. KNIGHT

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 6, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I now honor an extraordinary